

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

The text of all pending claims, (including withdrawn claims) is set forth below. Cancelled and not entered claims are indicated with claim number and status only. The claims as listed below show added text with underlining and deleted text with ~~strikethrough~~. The status of each claim is indicated with one of (original), (currently amended), (cancelled), (withdrawn), (new), (previously presented), or (not entered).

Please AMEND the claims in accordance with the following:

1. (Currently Amended) An address data management method comprising:  
acquiring address data from a purchaser wishing to purchase and have merchandise delivered, ~~said the~~ acquiring storing a plurality of delivery addresses, including addresses of one or a plurality of non-purchasers;  
establishing a respective unique address identification (ID) for each of ~~said the~~ plurality of delivery addresses in ~~said the~~ address data according to a request for issuing an address ID from ~~said the~~ purchaser, ~~said the~~ unique address IDs being invulnerable to reverse translation by a third party into ~~said the~~ address data, and notifying ~~said the~~ purchaser thereof;  
managing a correspondence table indicating correspondence between ~~said the~~ address data and ~~said the~~ respective unique address IDs;  
accepting delivery request data generated by a vendor of ~~said the~~ merchandise based upon a delivery request from the purchaser, ~~said the~~ delivery request data including the unique address ID as delivery address of either the purchaser or the non-purchaser;  
looking up the unique address ID in ~~said the~~ delivery request in ~~said the~~ correspondence table, and extracting a corresponding one of ~~said the~~ plurality of delivery addresses of the purchaser or non-purchaser in ~~said the~~ address data; and  
executing delivery processing of an article based on ~~said the~~ extracted address data.
2. (Currently amended) An address data management method according to claim 1, wherein at an elapse of a set length of time following establishment of ~~said the~~ address ID, the corresponding address ID in ~~said the~~ correspondence table is deleted.

3. (currently amended) An address data management method according to claim 1, wherein an address ID corresponding to address data for which delivery processing has been executed a predetermined number of times is deleted from ~~said~~the correspondence table.

4. (currently amended) An address data management method according to claim 3, wherein an address ID corresponding to address data for which delivery processing has been executed once is deleted from ~~said~~the correspondence table.

5. (Currently amended) An address data management method according to claim 1, further including accepting from ~~said~~the purchaser instructions to make ~~said~~the address ID invalid, and deleting the corresponding address ID in ~~said~~the table.

6. (Currently amended) An address data management method comprising:  
acquiring address data from a purchaser wishing to purchase and have merchandise delivered, ~~said~~the acquiring storing a plurality of delivery addresses, including addresses of one or a plurality of non-purchasers;

establishing a unique user account for identifying ~~said~~the purchaser and notifying ~~said~~the purchaser thereof;

managing a correspondence table showing the correspondence between ~~said~~the address data and user accounts;

in response to an inquiry from a vendor of merchandise that ~~said~~the purchaser wishes to purchase and have delivered, authenticating ~~said~~the purchaser using ~~said~~the purchaser's user account, establishing an address identification (ID) invulnerable to reverse translation to ~~said~~the address data by a third party, and notifying ~~said~~the vendor of ~~said~~the address ID;

accepting delivery request data generated by a vendor of ~~said~~the merchandise that includes ~~said~~the address ID for either the purchaser or the non-purchaser; and

executing delivery processing of an article based on address data corresponding to ~~said~~the address ID.

7. (Currently amended) An address data management method according to claim 6, further comprising:

computing use points for ~~said~~the user account each time delivery processing is executed; and

awarding benefits to said the user account based on the accumulated total of said the use points.

8. (Currently amended) An address data management method according to claim 6, further comprising transferring said the delivery request data to said the purchaser when delivery request data has been received from said the vendor, and accepting confirmation information from said the purchaser.

9. (Currently amended) An address data management method according to claim 6, further comprising determining whether the address ID included in delivery request data received from said the vendor is valid, and deciding whether to execute delivery processing of said the article based on the results of said the determination.

10. (Currently amended) An address data management method according to claim 6, further comprising setting up benefits in advance to award to said the vendor each time delivery request data is received from said the vendor.

11. (Currently amended) An address data management method according to claim 6, further comprising:  
acquiring information relating to settlement method by said the purchaser; and  
settling accounts with said the vendor based on information relating to settlement method upon receipt of delivery request data from said the vendor.

12. (Currently amended) An address data management system comprising:  
address data acquisition unit acquiring address data from a purchaser wishing to purchase and have merchandise delivered, said the address data acquisition means storing a plurality of delivery addresses, including addresses of one or a plurality of non-purchasers;  
address identification (ID) establishment unit establishing a respective unique address ID for each of said the plurality of said the delivery addresses in said the address data according to a request for issuing an address ID from said the purchaser, said the unique address IDs being invulnerable to reverse translation by a third party into said the address data, and notifying said the purchaser thereof;

correspondence table management unit managing a correspondence table indicating correspondence between said the address data and said the respective unique address IDs;

delivery request acceptance unit accepting delivery request data generated by a vendor of said the merchandise based upon a delivery request from the purchaser, the said delivery request data including at least one of the unique address ID as delivery address of either the purchaser or the non-purchasers; and

delivery processing unit looking up the unique address ID in said the delivery request in said the correspondence table, extracting a corresponding one of said the plurality of delivery addresses of the purchaser or non-purchaser in said the address data, and executing delivery processing of an article based on said the extracted address data.

13. (Currently amended) An address data management system method according to claim 12, wherein said the correspondence table management unit deletes the corresponding address ID in said the correspondence table when a set length of time has elapsed following establishment of said the address.

14. (Currently amended) An address data management system according to claim 12, wherein said the correspondence table management unit deletes an address ID corresponding to address data for which delivery processing has been executed a predetermined number of times.

15. (Currently amended) An address data management system according to claim 12, wherein said the correspondence table management unit deletes an address ID corresponding to address data for which delivery processing has been executed once.

16. (Currently amended) An address data management system according to claim 12, wherein said the correspondence table management unit accepts from said the purchaser instructions to make said the address ID invalid, and deletes the corresponding address ID in said the table.

17. (Currently amended) An address data management system comprising:

address data acquisition unit acquiring address data acquisition means storing a plurality of delivery addresses, including addresses of one or a plurality of non-purchasers, from a purchaser wishing to purchase and have merchandise delivered;

user account establishment unit establishing a unique user account for identifying said the purchaser and notifying said the purchaser thereof;

correspondence table management unit managing a correspondence table indicating correspondence between said the address data and user account;

address identification (ID) establishment unit, in response to an inquiry from a vendor of merchandise that said the purchaser wishes to purchase and have delivered, authenticating said the purchaser using said the purchaser's user account, establishing an address ID invulnerable to reverse translation to said the address data by a third party, and notifying said the vendor of said the address ID;

delivery request acceptance unit accepting delivery request data generated by a vendor of said the merchandise, that includes said the address ID for either the purchaser or the non-purchaser; and

delivery processing unit executing delivery processing of an article based on address data corresponding to said the address ID.

18. (Currently amended) An address data management system according to claim 17, further comprising:

use point management unit adding use points for said the user account each time delivery processing is executed; and

benefit presentation unit awarding benefits to said the user account based on the accumulated total of said the use points.

19. (Currently amended) An address data management system according to claim 17, further comprising request confirmation unit transferring said the delivery request data to said the purchaser when delivery request data has been received from said the vendor, and accepting confirmation information from said the purchaser.

20. (Currently amended) An address data management system according to claim 17, further comprising address ID determination unit determining whether the address ID included in delivery request data received from ~~said~~the vendor is valid, and deciding whether to execute delivery processing of ~~said~~the article based on the results of ~~said~~the determination.

21. (Currently amended) An address data management system according to claim 17, further comprising vendor benefit establishment unit establishing benefits in advance to award to ~~said~~the vendor each time delivery request data is received from ~~said~~the vendor.

22. (Currently amended) An address data management system according to claim 17, further comprising:

settlement information acquisition unit acquiring information relating to settlement method from ~~said~~the purchaser; and

settlement unit settling accounts with ~~said~~the vendor based on information relating to ~~said~~the settlement method, upon receipt of delivery request data from ~~said~~the vendor.

23. (Currently amended) An address data management method, comprising:  
storing a plurality of delivery addresses as address data from a purchaser, including addresses of one or a plurality of non-purchasers;  
establishing a respective unique address identification (ID) invulnerable to reverse translation by a third party into ~~said~~the address data for ~~said~~the plurality of delivery addresses according to request for issuing the address ID from the purchaser;  
accepting delivery request data generated by a vendor of ~~said~~the merchandise based upon a delivery request from the purchaser, the said delivery request data including the unique address ID as delivery address of either the purchaser or the non-purchaser;  
determining a corresponding one of ~~said~~the plurality of delivery addresses in ~~said~~the address data based on ~~said~~the address ID; and  
delivering an article to ~~said~~the corresponding one of ~~said~~the plurality of delivery addresses.